The following officers were elected for the year 1925-26:

President:	George Vaux, Jr.
Vice President:	Harold W. Arndt.
Secretary:	Horace R. Blank.
Treasurer:	Henry E. Millson.
Councillor:	Morrell G. Biernbaum.

Mr. R. B. Gage exhibited a number of very fine specimens of topaz, rhodochrosite, hedyphane, carbonado diamond, roeblingite, planchéite and other minerals belonging to Colonel Washington A. Roebling of Trenton, N. J. Mr. Gage was requested to convey the thanks of the Society to Col. Roebling for the exhibit.

Mr. J. C. Boyle addressed the Society on "*Mineral Collecting in Ontario and Quebec*," describing a trip taken by four members to these regions in July 1925. The talk was illustrated by lantern slides and by a great number of excellent specimens. The latter included fluorite crystals from Madoc, Ont., cyrtolite, allanite, and ellsworthite from Hybla Ont., apatite crystals from Clear Lake, Renfrew Co., Ont., and large phlogopite and diopside crystals from the mica mines north of Hull, Quebec. On the return trip tourmaline was collected at Pierrepont, N. Y., and danburite at South Russell, N. Y. The entire trip was taken by auto, and covered about 1400 miles.

HORACE R. BLANK, *Secretary*

NOTES AND NEWS

NOTE ON THE DECOLORIZATION OF METHYLENE IODIDE. O. IVAN LEE, *Jersey City, N. J.* Like most alkyl halogens, methylene iodide is subject to incipient decomposition (reduction) as a result of traces of residual iodoform, exposure to light and contact with organic matter (dust, cork), and the iodine so released speedily darkens the solution so that for all practical purposes it is objectionably opaque. The literature states that this color may be removed by the addition of copper, but copper shot left in discolored methylene iodide for many months failed to have any visible effect, perhaps because of a protective film of cuprous oxide or the formation of one of cuprous iodide. It was suggested that mercury because of its well known affinity for iodine as well as by reason of its motility might be more effective. A very dark sample of methylene iodide was therefore violently shaken with a drop of mercury for several minutes. The color progressively lightened finally becoming a clear (greenish) yellow. Most of the mercury with adherent mercury iodide remained at the bottom, but a small amount remained suspended for some time. This, however, may readily be removed at once by filtering. Another drop of mercury added to the filtrate inhibits any further decomposition indefinitely, and the color finally becomes pale yellow. This clear light colored methylene iodide will be found much more serviceable for use in density determinations.

A Bibliography of Bibliographies on Chemistry and Chemical Technology, 1900-1924, by Clarence J. West and D. D. Berolzeimer, is announced by the National Research Council, Washington, D. C., as their Bulletin No. 50 (308 p., $2.50). The work is a compilation of bibliographies published as separates, or at the end of books or magazine articles, or as footnotes, on the numerous aspects of

pure and applied chemistry. An approximate analysis shows that there are about 2400 subject headings, 7500 author entries and a total of 10,000 individual bibliographies.

The National Research Council has contracted to publish the "International Critical Tables of Numerical Data of Physics, Chemistry and Technology" in five volumes. In the contract the National Research Council has reserved to individuals who are members of scientific and engineering societies the right to purchase the volumes at manufacturing cost, $35.00, provided applications are filed with the National Research Council, B and Twenty-first Streets, Washington, D. C., prior to the publication of the first volume which is scheduled to appear early in 1926. The price after publication of the first volume will be $60.00 for the complete set.

Edward S. Law, geologist and mineralogist of Charlemont, Massachusetts, has been engaged for some time by a New York mining engineer in the re-location of some of the old-time prospects for copper, iron, manganese, lead and barium, as a result of which he has obtained some unusually fine material from many of the remote corners of the Berkshire region and elsewhere.

More than four thousand specimens of the minerals of the rarer metals collected by Frank L. Hess during eighteen years' service with the U. S. Geological Survey, have been turned over to the U. S. National Museum.

According to *Science News* a new source of helium has been suggested by Dr. Kurt Peters of the Physical-Technical Institute of Berlin. It can be distilled from radio-active minerals used in the various industries, especially from monazite sand. Dr. Peters claims that this source, which is the most important in Germany, can produce from fifteen to twenty thousand cubic feet annually.

J. Samoiloff, professor of mineralogy at the Academy of Agriculture, Moscow, died suddenly on September 29 in his fifty-fifth year. Professor Samoiloff was especially interested in the problems of the sedimentary rocks and had carried on extensive investigations on the phosphate deposits of Russia.

According to a bulletin from the Russian Academy of Sciences, a new discovery of high grade uraninite ore has been reported from the western coast of the White Sea. Samples brought to Leningrad have been analyzed by the Radium Institute which reports the ore as rich in uranium as that obtained in Joachimsthal. The Academy has sent an expedition led by A. E. Fersman to the White Sea district in order to secure large quantities of the ore.

A leaflet received from the Mineral-Exchange Bureau of the Institute of Economic Mineralogy and Metallurgy (Hospital Street 8, Leningrad, Russia) calls attention to a number of minerals, including some of the rarer types, which may be purchased at reasonable prices. The minerals listed include those from the Kola peninsula, Fergana, Ilmen Mountains, Zlatoust district, and from Central and Eastern Siberia.